

REMARKS

Applicant has amended the Title of the Invention as suggested by the Examiner.

The Examiner asserts that “Page 18, lines 3,4 the equation is not understood and seems incorrect.” Applicant respectfully submits that the formula is correct. As shown in Figure 5, the distance “O” is the distance between points P₁ and P₂, while “O₁” is the distance between P₁ and a centerline of the pin 26, and “O₂” is the distance between P₂ and the same centerline. Accordingly O₁ + O₂ = O as written in applicant’s specification.

Claims 1-3, 7-9 and 11-17 stand rejected under 103(a) on Min alone and in view of Gammel. Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

Applicant has amended claim 1 to recite a test socket device, “wherein the first maximum amplitude and the second maximum amplitude have substantially different sizes.” Neither Min nor Gammel disclose or suggest such features.

Gammel does not disclose such varying amplitudes, and actually teaches away from this feature by teaching pins having the same amplitude as shown in Figures 4-7. The Examiner does not cite Gammel as disclosing such varying amplitudes.

The Examiner has conceded that Min does not disclose different amplitudes, but has asserted that normal production would result in varying amplitudes. Applicants submit that such production tolerances would not result in amplitudes of “substantially different sizes” as now recited in claim 1. By using pins having such varied amplitudes (as shown in applicant’s Figure 5 and detailed at page 17, line 5, through page 18, line 19), applicant’s invention allows for the pins to properly align themselves while being inserted into recesses. The portion having the smaller amplitude allows for a raw alignment of the pin as the pin is inserted, while the portion of the pin with the larger amplitude provides a fine alignment of the pins as they are pushed further into the recesses.

Accordingly claim 1 is allowable over Min and Gammel alone or in combination.

Claims 11 and 14 recite feature substantially similar to those detailed above and are therefore allowable for at least the reasons discussed. Claims 2-3, 7-9, 12, 13 and 15-17 depend from allowable claims and are therefore allowable due at least to their respective dependencies.

Claims 1-3, 5, 8-9 and 11-14 stand rejected under 35 USC 103(a) on Min in view of Yamashita. Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

Applicant has amended claim 1 to recite a test socket device, “wherein the portions of the connection pin having the first and second maximum amplitudes contact the recess when the at least one section of the connection pin is introduced into the recess of the contact device.” Neither Min nor Yamashita disclose or suggest such features.

Although, as conceded by the Examiner, Min does not disclose pins having a portions with different maximum amplitudes, the Examiner contends that Yamashita has such pins and that it would be obvious to combine the two references to achieve applicant’s invention. Applicant respectfully disagrees. Yamashita discloses a contact pin 10 having a stopping portion 13, an elastic contact portion 14 and a removal resistance portion 15. In direct contrast to claim 1, Yamashita teaches that the removal resistance portion 15 does not make electrical contact with a recess. Instead, the removal resistance portion 15 extends below the recess and prevents the pin 10 from becoming dislodged (see Fig. 2 and col. 3, line 36 to col. 4, line 23). Combining the removal resistance portion 15 with the pin of Min such that the removal resistance portion 15 contacts the recess would be completely contrary to the teachings of Yamashita in that it would negate the purpose for the removal resistance portion 15 as taught by Yamashita. The entire purpose of the removal resistance portion 15 is to pass through the recess and then to expand to a size which makes it difficult to dislodge the pin 10.

Accordingly, claim 1 is allowable over the combination of Min and Yamashita. Claims 11 and 14 recite feature substantially similar to those detailed above and are therefore allowable

for at least the reasons discussed. Claims 2-3, 5, 8, 9, 12 and 13 depend from allowable claims and are therefore allowable due at least to their respective dependencies.

Claims 1-3, 5, 7-9 and 11-17 stand rejected under 35 USC 103(a) on Min in view of Belopolsky. Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

The combination of Min and Belopolsky does not disclose or suggest all of the features recited in claim 1. Specifically the combination fails to teach a test socket device, "wherein the first maximum amplitude and the second maximum amplitude have substantially different sizes, and wherein the portions of the connection pin having the first and second maximum amplitudes contact the recess when the at least one section of the connection pin is introduced into the recess of the contact device," as recited in claim 1.

As detailed above, the Examiner has conceded that Min does not teach such features. Belopolsky also fails to teach such features. As shown in Figure 3B, Belopolsky discloses an electrical connection pin having a wave shape with three crests (sections in which a maximum amplitude is exhibited). The first two crests, items 170 and 171 in Figure 3A (which corresponds to Figure 3B) have identical maximum amplitudes as can be seen by dissecting the wave at the midpoint of pin 154. The third crest (not numbered, but located below item 171 in the Figure) has a smaller maximum amplitude. When the pins are inserted into a slot as shown in Figure 6C, the two crests having identical amplitudes contact the recess, while the third crest (having a smaller amplitude) does not make contact with the recess as recited in claim 1.

Accordingly, the combination of Min and Belopolsky fails to disclose all of the features recited in claim 1, which is therefore allowable. Claims 11 and 14 recite feature substantially similar to those detailed above and are therefore allowable for at least the reasons discussed. Claims 2-3, 5, 7-9 and 12-17 depend from allowable claims and are therefore allowable due at least to their respective dependencies.

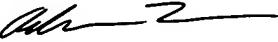
Claims 18 and 19 have been added to round out the scope of the invention, support for which can be found at least at Figure 5 and page 17 and 18. No new matter has been added.

Applicant solicits an early action allowing the claims.

In the event the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, applicant petitions for any required relief including extensions of time and authorizes the Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to **Deposit Account No. 03-1952** referencing Attorney Docket No. **543822003200**.

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